Increase in the retail and wholesale prices of essential commodities

•**2.** SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SOM PAL:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state**:**

(a) what was the increase in retail and whole-sale prices of essential commodities since 9th November, 1990 till date;

(b) whether Government perceives **any** decline in the prices of essen-cial commodities in view of good monsoons; and

(c) whether edible oil is likely to **be** imported; if so, what is the estimated quantity likely to be imported and by when?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAO BIR-ENDRA SINGH): (a) Statements showing the retail prices and wholesale prices of selected essential commodities for selected centres as on 9-11-1990 and 1-2-1991 are laid on the Table of the House as Anne-xures—I and II respectively. No. *(See* Appendix CLVII, Annexure No. I]

(b) The prices of essential com-modities depend on factors like, prices of other commodities, money supply and overall liquidity, demand and supply etc. In view of good monsoon, prices of essential commodities are expected to soften.

(c) The quantum of edible oils to be imported is decided by Government from time to time, keeping in view various factors, such as gap between demand and supply, international prices of oils, BOP position and other related factors. Government will try to bridge the gap between demand and supply to the maximum possible extent, subject to the overall availability of foreign exchange and other factors related with imported edible Oils.

Cancellation of Trains due to non-availability of Diesel

*3. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of trains have been cancelled anticipating non-availability of dies-el due to t)he Gulf War;

(b) if so, the names of those trains;

(c) what would be the effect of the cancellation of trains on Railway economy;

(d) the quantity and value of fuel saved due to the said cancellations, till date;

(e) by when Government propose to restart the cancelled trains; and

(f) whether Government propose to introduce some more trains in future to cope with the demand for passenger and goods movement?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (f) 41 pairs of Maill Express Passenger services, as per statement, have been withdrawn. The engines and paths saved due to withdrawal of passenger trains are being utilised to improve freight movement and, therefore, Railways' consumption, of Diesel will not reduce in the area of traction. A gradual process to restore these trains will be initiated as soon as the position starts improving. Introduction of new trains is a con-tinuous process based on demand subject to availability of resources, operational feasibility and commercial viability.

Statement

J.	3133/3134	Sealdah-Mughalsara Expresss
2.	4047/4048	Delhi-Balamau Express
3.	8631/8632	Hatia-Varanasi Express
4.	4265/4266	Oehradun-Varanasi Express
5.	7339/7340	Dadar-Nagpur Express(on Nagppi-Bhusavai Section)
6.	1269/1270	Bhopal-Rajkot Express (on Rajkot-Ujjain Section)
7.	2853/2854	Durg-Bhopal Amarkantak Express
8.	9809/9810	Ahmedabad-Bhavnagar Express
9.	5717/5718	Katihar-Guwahati Express
10.	9903/9904	Ahmcdabad-Delhi Express
11.	3049/3050	Amritsar-Howrah Express
12.	3039/3040	Howrah-Delhi Express (on Howrah-Mughalsarai Section
13.	3282/3284	Bhiwani-Danapur Ganga-Yamuna Express
14.	3213/3214	Bhiwani-Danapur Ganga-Yamuna Express
15.	1057/1058	Dadar-Amritsar Express
16.	4309/4310	Dehradun-Udjjain Ujjaini Express
17.	2473/2474	Delhi-Muzaffarpur Shaheed Express -
18.	2449/2450	Deihi-Muzaffarpur Saryu-Yamuna Express
19.	7489/7490	Cochin-Varanasi Express -
20.	7491/7492	Tirupati-Varanasi Express
21.	8089/8090	Tirupati-Howrah Express (on Howrah-Vijayawada Section)
22.	6093/6094	Madras-Lucknow Express
23.	6017/6018	Kanniya-Kumari-Jamtnu Tawi Himsagar Express
24.	6687/6688	Jammu Tawi-Mangalore Navyug Express
25.	5045/5046	Ahmedabad-Gorakhpur Express
26.	5011/5012	Cochin-Gorakhpur Express
27.	7081/7082	Cochin-Indore Express
28.	5089/5090	Gorakhpur-Hyderabad Express
29.	6365/6366	Trichy-Cochin Express
30.	3025/3026	Howrah-Muzaffarpur Express
31.	2159/2160	Howrah-Gwalior Chambal Express
32.	2181/2182	Howrah-Agra Express
33.	2161/2162	Dadar-Agra Lashkar Express
34.	1171/1172	Howrah Indore Shipra Express
35.	2557/2558	Guwahati-Howrah Express
32.	4245/4246	Surat-Varanasi Tapti-Ganga Express
37.	47/48	Vadodara-Okba Fast Passenger
.38.	4647/4648	Delhi-Amritsar Flying Mall
39	6063/6064	Dadar-Madras Chennai Express
40..	6179/6180	Madras-Tirunalveli'Janata Express
11.	6799/6800	Tirupati-Rameswaram Express (on Madural-Ramoswaran Soctien)